

## Message Text

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53

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 L-03 IGA-02 EB-11 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 PC-04 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 COME-00

DOT-00 NEA-14 XMB-07 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /112 W

----- 005785

P R 241516Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5509

INFO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E. O. 11652: N/-

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, BC

SUBJ: BOT-ZAM ROAD

1. MINFIN PERMSEC HERMANS INFORMED AMB THAT GOB CABINET DECIDED 21JUN NOT TO AWARD CONTRACT TO GROVE FOR UPGRADING NATA-KAZUNGULA STRETCH BOT-ZAM ROAD UNTIL GOB SECURED OTHER DONOR FINANCING. GROVE IS BEING INFORMED.

2. REASONS FOR GOB DECISION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A) SIXTY-TWO PERCENT COST OVERRUN OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND POSSIBLE POLITICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DIVERSION SCARCE RESOURCES FROM HIGH PRIORITY RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO BOT-ZAM ROAD. TO STOP CONSTRUCTION CLINICS, HOSPITALS AND SCHOOLS COULD BE TROUBLESOME FOR KHAMA'S GOVT THIS ELECTION YEAR.

B) REVENUE GENERATED INTERNALLY HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN FORECAST.

C) PROPOSED WAGE INCREASES FOR CIVIL SERVANTS ESTIMATED AT \$7.5 MILLION ANNUALLY.

3. GOB WILL MAKE ANOTHER APPROACH TO ARAB COUNTRIES IN JUL

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BUT IS NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT RESULTS.

4. GOB HAS STATED THAT ARAB COUNTRIES HAVE GIVEN \$135 MILLION TO AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. PRIORITY FOR USE OF THESE FUNDS IS TO BE GIVEN TO LANDLOCKED AND SAHELIAN COUNTRIES. WHILE BOTSWANA QUALIFIES UNDER THESE CATEGORIES, GOB IS NOT CONFIDENT OF RECEIVING ADEQUATE FINANCING ON A TIMELY BASIS.

5. GOB HAS INDICATED IT INTENDS TO APPROACH OTHER BILATERAL DONORS. IT IS EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION THAT AID IS CONSIDERED A PRIME TARGET. WE HAVE ATTEMPTED TO DISCOURAGE ANY LARGE EXPECTATIONS ON THE PART OF GOB BUT SENIOR OFFICIALS HERE WILL BE GREATLY DISAPPOINTED IF SOME ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE NOT FORTHCOMING. ACCORDING TO GOB SOURCES, THE LATEST TOTAL COST ESTIMATE UPGRADING IS \$14 MILLION INCLUDING SUPERVISION AND ESCALATION COST.  
BOLEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, BOTZAM ROAD, HIGHWAYS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CollinP0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974GABORO00827  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740165-0652  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CollinP0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 AUG 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>  
**Review Markings:**

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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BOT-ZAM ROAD  
**TAGS:** EFIN, EAID, BC, ZA, XA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005